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Celebrity chef Emeril Lagasse announced Wednesday the opening of his new restaurant, Emeril's Bistro, on Carnival Cruise Line's newest ship. 14

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STREETS PHILADELPHIA

8 THINGS TO KNOW

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‘Fearless Girl’ statue invades London

1 “Fearless Girl,” by sculptor Kristen Visbal, is displayed in London. The statue, which has also been referred to as the Defiant Girl statue, originally situated on Wall Street in 2017, facing down the Charging Bull statue, has been installed in London to mark International Women’s Day.

Alex Trebek diagnosed with pancreatic cancer

2 “Jeopardy!” host Alex Trebek has been diagnosed with Stage IV pancreatic cancer, he said in a video message on Wednesday, vowing to beat the disease despite its low survival rate. The Canadian-born Trebek has hosted the syndicated game show since 1984, making him one of the most recognizable figures on television in North America. Trebek, 78, said in a video message posted to YouTube that he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer earlier this week. “Now normally, the prognosis for this is not very encouraging, but I’m going to fight this, and I’m going to keep working,” Trebek said. “And with the love and support of my family and friends and with the help of your prayers also, I plan to beat the low survival rate statistics for this disease.” Stage IV typically means the cancer has spread to other parts of the body.

‘Beagle Brigade’ used to sniff out deadly hog virus

3 The U.S. government will employ more dogs to sniff out illegal pork products at airports and seaports in an effort to keep out a contagious hog disease that has spread across Asia and Europe, the U.S. Department of Agriculture said Wednesday. The disease, African swine fever, can kill hogs in just two days, but is not harmful to people. China has reported more than 100 cases of the disease in 27 provinces and regions since August. Efforts to contain the fever have disrupted Chinese pork supplies. U.S. officials decided to ramp up their fight to avoid the virus after Vietnam confirmed its first cases last month, said the USDA’s Greg Ibach. They’ll add 60 beagle teams at key commercial ports, seaports and airports, for a total of 179 teams, to expand arrival screenings and check cargo for illegal pork products that can carry the virus, according to the USDA.

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REUTERS

Trump: Would be 'very disappointed' in Kim

If reports about a North Korea launch site are true.

President Donald Trump said on Wednesday he would be very disappointed in North Korean leader Kim Jong-un if reports about rebuilding at a rocket launch site in North Korea were true.

Two U.S. think tanks and South Korea's Yonhap News Agency reported on Tuesday that work was underway to restore part of North Korea's Sohae Satellite Launching Station even as Trump met with North Korean leader Kim Jong-un at a second summit in Hanoi last week.

"I would be very disappointed if that were happening," Trump told reporters in the Oval Office, when asked if North Korea was breaking a promise.

"Well we're going to see. It's too early to see. ... It's a very early report. We're the ones that put it out. But I would be very, very disappointed in Chairman Kim, and I don't think I will be, but we'll see what happens. We'll take a look. It'll ultimately get solved."

GETTY IMAGE

North Korea began work to dismantle a missile engine test stand at Sohae last year after pledging to do so in a first summit with Trump in June.

A second summit between Trump and Kim broke down last week in Hanoi over differences on how far North Korea was willing to limit its nuclear program and the degree of U.S. willingness to ease sanctions.

"We have a very nasty problem there. We have to solve a problem," Trump said, while adding in apparent reference to Kim: "The relationship is good."

Satellite images seen by 38 North, a Washington-based North Korea project, showed that structures on the Sohae launchpad had been rebuilt sometime between Feb. 16 and March 2, Jenny Town, managing editor at the project and an analyst at the Stimson Center think tank, told Reuters.

The Center for Strategic and International Studies think tank released a separate report, also citing satellite imagery, that concluded North Korea was "pursuing a rapid rebuilding" at the site.

News of the rebuilding work at Sohae was first reported by Yonhap News Agency, which quoted South Korea lawmakers on details of a briefing by the country's National Intelligence Service in Seoul on Tuesday.

A U.S. government source said the work at Sohae likely began before the summit, which was preceded by a series of lower-level preparatory talks in February.

Trump's national security adviser, John Bolton, warned on Tuesday that new sanctions could be introduced if North Korea did not scrap its nuclear weapons program. The breakdown of the Feb. 27-28 summit and Bolton's sanctions threat have raised questions about the future of a dialogue process the Trump administration has pursued in an effort to persuade North Korea to abandon a nuclear weapons program that threatens the U.S.

Some analysts have interpreted the work at Sohae as an attempt by North Korea to put pressure on Washington to agree to a deal rather than as a definite move to resume tests there.

The U.S. government source, who did not want to be otherwise identified, said North Korea's plan in rebuilding at the site could have been to conspicuously stop again as a demonstration of good faith if a summit agreement was struck, while the work would represent a sign of defiance or resolve if the meeting failed.

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said on Monday he was hopeful he would send a delegation to North Korea in the coming weeks but that he had "no commitment yet." REUTERS

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Majority of Americans think Trump committed crimes before election: Poll

Michael Cohen's testimony against President Trump might have hit him where he lives — in the polls.

Sixty-four percent of American voters believed that Trump committed crimes before he became president, according to a Quinnipiac poll released Wednesday. Only 24 percent said he didn't, and 13 percent weren't sure.

The survey was conducted after Cohen testified before Congress that Trump directed him to lie about hush money paid to Trump's mistresses before the 2016 election.

As to whether Trump has committed crimes while in office, 45 percent of Americans said yes; 43 percent said he hadn't.

During Cohen's Feb. 27 testimony, he called Trump a "racist" and a "con man," and detailed the hush-money payments. The president's former fixer claimed that Trump had artificially inflated his assets to get bank loans, then deflated them to save on taxes. Trump has denied the allegations.

Fifty percent of respondents said they believed Cohen; 33 percent said they believed Trump. Forty-four percent said that Cohen told the truth; 36 percent said he didn't.

"When two-thirds of voters think you have committed a crime in your past life, and almost half of voters say it's a toss-up over whether you committed a crime while in the Oval Office, confidence in your overall integrity is very shaky," said Tim Malloy, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Poll. "Add to that, Michael Cohen, a known liar headed to the big house, has more credibility than the leader of the free world."

Overall, more Americans approved of how the Democrats handled the House Oversight hearing in which Cohen testified. Forty-one percent approved of the Democrats' performance, while 51 percent disapproved of the GOP.

"Michael Cohen, a known liar headed to the big house, has more credibility than the leader of the free world."
Tim Malloy, Quinnipiac Poll

But Americans aren't ready to move toward impeachment: Fifty-nine percent of voters said that Congress should not begin impeachment hearings against Trump, while 35 percent said it should. But voters said that Congress should continue to investigate Trump by nearly the same margin, 58 to 35 percent.

The poll put Trump's approval rating at 38 percent, the same as in January. MICHAEL MARTIN

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R. Kelly. REUTERS

R. Kelly denies sexual abuse charges, arrested hours later

Pounding his chest for emphasis, Kelly shouted, "I didn't do this stuff!"

R&B singer R. Kelly was taken into custody on Wednesday after a court hearing in Chicago in which he was ordered to pay $161,663 in child support he owes, according to a Cook County Sheriff's spokesman.

Kelly was detained hours after CBS News aired an interview with the singer in which he lashed out against charges that he had sexually assaulted teenage girls.

Kelly, 52, pleaded not guilty in February to charges that he sexually assaulted three teenage girls and a woman in alleged incidents dating back to 1998, weeks after a Lifetime documentary leveled new accusations against him.

In his first interview since the indictment, "CBS This Morning" co-host Gayle King asked Kelly about allegations that he had sex with women under 18 and that he was physically and verbally abusive.

"Not true," the "I Believe I Can Fly" singer responded in a clip of the interview played on the CBS Evening News. King, who spoke to Kelly in Chicago, his hometown, then asked if he had held anyone against his will. "I don't need to. Why would I?" he said.

The singer grew angry and emotional as the interview went on, turning to make his argument directly to the camera. "That's stupid. Use your common sense," he said.

"Forget the blogs, forget how you feel about me," Kelly added. "Hate me if you want to, love me if you want. But just use your common sense. How stupid would it be for me, with my crazy past."

"Hate me if you want to, love me if you want. But just use your common sense. How stupid would it be for me, with my crazy past."

R. Kelly

Pounding his chest for emphasis, Kelly shouted, "I didn't do this stuff!" His voice cracked and he broke into tears, saying: "This is not me! I'm fighting for my f—ng life!" The excerpt broadcast by CBS bleeped out the expletive while the transcript used an asterisk.

Kelly, whose real name is Robert Sylvester Kelly, could face up to seven years in prison for each of the 10 counts if convicted.

CBS said it will air additional footage from the interview on "CBS This Morning" on Wednesday and Thursday. REUTERS

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Chef Batali cuts ties with restaurants

GETTY IMAGES

Celebrity chef and former television star Mario Batali sold his stakes in his U.S. restaurants on Wednesday, after accusations of sexual harassment caused him to be fired from a television cooking show and prompted a police investigation.

Batali has sold his shares in the 16-restaurant operation, including Babbo and Del Posto in New York, to former partners Tanya Bastianich Manuali and her brother, Joe Bastianich, he said.

"I have reached an agreement with Joe and no longer have any stake in the restaurants we built together. I wish him the best of luck in the future," Batali said in a statement from his representative, Risa Heller.

Batali has previously admitted and apologized for sexually harassing women but denied charges that he sexually assaulted a woman in 2005.

Since the start of the #MeToo movement, hundreds of women have publicly accused powerful men of sexual misconduct that was often overlooked by colleagues.

Batali's charisma and culinary flair turned him into a restaurant executive, television star, author and one of the world's most recognizable chefs. He premiered on Food Network in 1997 on the show "Molto Mario" and in 2011 helped launch "The Chew" on ABC.

Batali is in the process of selling a minority stake of Eataly USA, a luxury marketplace with six locations in the United States, Eataly spokesman Chris Giglio said in a statement. Heller did not respond to requests for comment on Batali's ownership of Eataly.

The New York Police Department launched an investigation after CBS "60 Minutes" reported in May 2018 that Batali drugged and sexually assaulted an employee in 2005. Batali at the time denied the report.

"I have reached an agreement with Joe and no longer have any stake in the restaurants we built together. I wish him the best of luck in the future."

Mario Batali

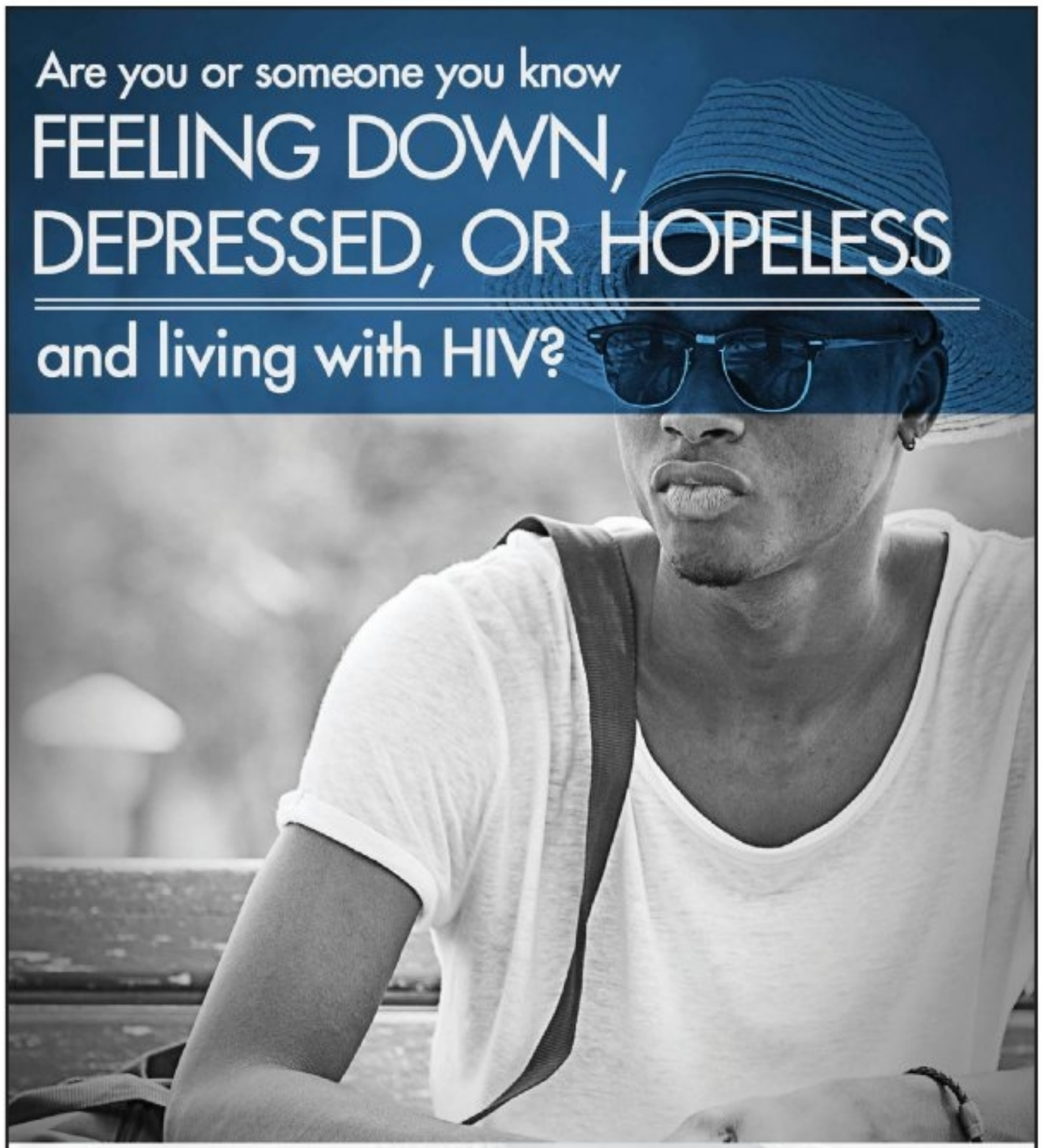
Police in January closed their investigation because detectives could not find enough evidence and the incident was past the state's statute of limitations, according to reports by local media.

Police did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

In December 2017, ABC Television Network fired Batali from its daytime cooking show "The Chew" after four unnamed women accused him of sexual misconduct that they said spanned at least two decades. The Food Network had also canceled plans to relaunch "Molto Mario."

In a previous statement, Batali apologized and admitted to those allegations, stating that the claims "match up with ways I have acted."

REUTERS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US Sen. and Air Force vet McSally says she was raped by a superior

The Arizona Republican is the second senator in two months to come forward.

REUTERS

U.S. Sen. Martha McSally, the first female combat pilot in the U.S. Air Force, said on Wednesday she had been raped by a superior officer but did not report it because she blamed herself and did not trust the system.

"The perpetrators abuse their position of power in profound ways, and in one case I was preyed upon and then raped by a superior officer," McSally said during a Senate hearing on sexual assault in the military.

"But unlike so many brave survivors, I didn't report being sexually assaulted," she added. "Like so many women and men, I didn't trust the system. I blamed myself. I was ashamed and confused. I thought I was strong but felt powerless."

Sexual assault and harassment in the military is largely underreported and came under renewed scrutiny two years ago after a scandal involving Marines sharing nude photos of women online came to light.

"I stayed silent for many years, but later in my career, as the military grappled with scandals and their wholly inadequate responses, I felt the need to let some people know I, too, was a survivor," McSally said at the Senate Armed Services subcommittee hearing.

"I was horrified at how my attempts to share generally my experiences were handled," she said, adding that she came close to leaving the Air Force after 18 years.

"Like many victims, I felt the system was raping me all over again."

The Air Force did not immediately comment.

McSally's disclosure came fewer than two months after Sen. Joni Ernst, an Army veteran, said publicly that she had been raped in college by someone she knew and that her ex-husband had physically abused her. REUTERS

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This is Coconut and I loves his little winter sweaters! SENT BY AMELIA ACOSTA, METRO US READER

THE GRUMBLE DOG WINTER FASHION SHOW!!
Over the past few weeks, we have been flooded with emails with photos from our readers of their dogs wearing their best winter outfits. While we get a kick out of them over here at Metro HQ, we figured that it would only be fair to share these riches with the rest of the world. Feast your eyes on some of the best winter dog outfits from our mailbag.

Aries Do what makes you happy. Take a moment to yourself or spend time with someone who understands you. Refuse to acknowledge negativity.

Taurus Look at the possibilities and start the ball rolling. Pledge to reach your goals without complaint. Deal with problems secretively and have faith in your ability to take care of business.

Gemini Don't put pressure on others. If something needs to be done, do it yourself. Making assumptions or overreacting will not get you where you want.

Cancer Don't fear failure. Pick yourself up and make the most of whatever comes your way. If you recognize an opportunity and seize the moment.

Leo Don't let the changes going on around you slow you down. If you assess the situation, you'll find the best way to fit in and make a difference.

Virgo Use your imagination to come up with solutions that will help you get ahead. Gaining experience will be key to your success. A partnership will need an adjustment.

Libra Put greater emphasis on how you handle money. You'll face criticism if you make decisions without considering the consequences. Review details carefully before you make a change.

Scorpio Put some muscle behind your ideas and turn your dream into a reality. Much can be accomplished if you are willing to make a change. A unique lifestyle alteration is encouraged.

Sagittarius You'll be surprised by what someone says or does. Do not share personal information. Concentrate on self-improvement and steer clear of untrustworthy individuals.

Capricorn A change will do you good. Learn something new, research something you want to pursue and make your space conducive to greater productivity. Be the best that you can be.

Aquarius Don't take unnecessary risks. Improve your attitude by distancing yourself from a critic looking for a fight. Be proud of who you are and what you bring to the table.

Pisces Stick to the facts and follow the path that is best for you. Stay focused on what's important and refuse to let anyone pressure you to engage in excessive behavior.

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LIFESTYLE

Claris Park in "Bob: A Life in Five Acts." AZUKA THEATRE

It's a wonderful life

"Bob: A Life in Five Acts" is onstage now.

MOLLY GIVEN
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Azuka Theatre's newest production "Bob: A Life in Five Acts," onstage until March 17, follows the story of one man who has quite an interesting journey. "Bob" hits all the normal points a comedic stage show normally follows, with great one-liners, ridiculous but realistic situations and over-the-top characters. But "Bob" is not just a comedic stage show — it's a hilarious masterpiece. The show is anything but average, with superb acting, impeccable timing and a repertoire of comedy that will entertain virtually anyone. It's a unique treat and one that is refreshingly different. Plus, anyone can indulge in the hilarity that is "Bob: A Life in Five Acts": Azuka Theatre implements a pay-what-you-wish feature, meaning you decide how much you pay after the show ends. Michael Osinski, the director of "Bob," sat down with Metro to talk about the journey of Bob, how the actors take on multiple roles and what Philly audiences can expect from the show.

What makes the life of one man, Bob, such an interesting show?
I think the thing that makes him interesting is the fact that he starts from such humble beginnings and his journey is so imperfect. Throughout it all, with a little exception in there, he maintains this sort of wide-eyed optimism about it. I feel like that's what draws people in. He's a little bit like Forrest Gump in some ways, and I think if he were perfect or if he were meant to stand in for everybody, it would be less successful. Some people have said that they think Bob is supposed to be like an everyman sort of character. I don't know if I'm a fan of that description. I don't know why, but something about that doesn't sound right to me. What does sound right to me is the fact that he is imperfect, he is a little flawed, but he means well throughout most of the story. That's something I think people can attach to.

The show tackles many serious situations a person can go through in life while still managing to make the audience laugh. Was that difficult to do?
Not really. I mean, comedy is always harder to do than drama because it relies on timing often. In order to make something funny, you have to suspend your notions of realism a little bit. But then, at the same time, sometimes what makes things funny is when actors are deathly serious about what they are doing, and the humor comes out of that. It comes out of people who are entirely committed to the character and whatever the character wants and needs — that just comes across as funny to us. Comedy is so relative, depending on an audience's sense of humor. Yeah, there are some things that are universally funny, but it's something that's more unique to the individual. Some of the things that were difficult about it was knowing what we find funny might not be funny to everybody else.

There are five actors playing multiple roles in the show. Do you think that gives the actors more creative freedom? How does that play in with the timing of the show?
I think it's probably more difficult for them to do than for me to notice. I'm the one sort of standing outside watching and telling them what I see, and if I think they've brought the character to life. But that's for them to figure out how to do it quickly, because with comedy you have to move fast. Pacing is very much a part of the comedy, so if the show moves slowly I don't think it'll be nearly as funny. It really is on them to figure out the changes they need to make, whether it be physical or emotional to the next character.

What lesson or lessons do you think audience members will take away from the show?
As a director, maybe this makes me different from other artists, but I'm almost never a director who wants audiences to take away one very specific message from the show. I internally believe that art should be open to multiple interpretations. If you see a Pollock or a Picasso or a something like that, you think you know what you're seeing. You can sort of articulate that, but there's no explanation accompanying the painting to tell you if you're right or wrong. So, in terms of if there's one specific message, I can't think of one.

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"Buddy vs. Duff" premieres March 10 MATT HARBICHT/THE VERBATIM AGENCY

Who will take the cake?

Buddy vs. Duff premieres March 10 on Food Network.

MOLLY GIVEN
Molly.Given@metro.us

"Cake Boss" Buddy Valastro and the "Ace of Cakes" Duff Goldman are finally going head to head in a competition so sweet, it needed six weeks to be completed. In "Buddy vs. Duff," these two cake connoisseurs compete in a series of wacky, crazy and just plain impressive challenges where in the end, one of them is crowned the king of cakes.

The show premieres March 10 but many fans and cake lovers have been calling for a competition between the two stars for years, including the Cake Boss himself. "I think secretly I've always wanted to go head to head with Duff, and secretly he wanted to go head to head against me," Buddy says. "It's something that we both were never scared of and something we always wanted to do, time to give the fans what they want."

Buddy is not shy in front of the camera, he's been serving up extraordinarily gigantic cakes on TLC with the smash hit show "Cake Boss" for over a decade. Being on the popular show helped "train" the Hoboken native for the impending competition. "I gotta be honest with you the biggest thing that helped me was "Cake Boss." It's kind of like training for the Olympics right? When you think about it, what does a swimmer do? He swims every day. Doing 10 years of 'Cake Boss' every week trained me and Ralph to go to the Olympics of making cakes."

Although Buddy has gotten plenty of Olympic-style training in, not every part of the competition was easy. "The hardest was definitely the finale. We had four days to make the finale cake. I worked four days straight, 20 hours a day — I slept in my office."

In fact, some rounds of the competition proved to be extremely difficult, especially when facing former pastry chef Duff. "I think we had some episodes where he had advantages and some where I had advantages. One episode

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803 - Marshellea Patterson, D4 - Carole Garcia,
414 - Wayne Basmajian, 913 - Vanessa Smith, 1213 - Jeff Wilson,
1413 - Astrid Deluca, I15 - Shuntell Kea Wilkinson

Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.

Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell the contents of leased spaces to satisfy Extra Space's lien at the location indicated: **6204 Oxford Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19111, March 20, 2019** at **2:15 PM**

B102 Dorothy F. Caban, B127 Carmen Khafizov,
B199C Rykiera Aloniece Sullivan, B210C Jessica Roman,
C125 Selena Williams, C154C Tracey Norton, C194C Darryl K. Richardson,
E108 Maurice M. Shaw, F142 Deborah L. Cooper, G121 Maria M. Fairfox,
G122 Aminata Fofana, V127 Frankie Cortes, V168 Arlene L. Lyons

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Foster, Rodney 2411 • Bradford, Erika 2901

Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell the contents of leased spaces to satisfy Extra Space's lien at the location indicated: Extra Space Storage, **1553 Grant Ave., Philadelphia PA 19115, 267-453-3415. March 20th, 2019 at 3:00pm**

410 – Michael Schaeffer; 498 – Randall Barnes; 303 – Crystal Hughes;
643 – Joseph Lewis; 300 – Chiong Lin; 580 – Jeanette Davis;
41 – Colleen Reed; 278 – Charles Stanger; 275 – Charles Stanger

Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.

Valastro is used to making incredible cake designs. GETTY IMAGES

we had to do a plate of desserts, Duff worked as a pastry chef in restaurants and hotels. I never made a plate of desserts in my life really, I've been a baker."

Buddy and Duff have to accomplish incredible feats during the competition such as constructing elaborate car-inspired cakes, making carnival treats for hungry patrons, creating illusion cakes for a special show at Hollywood's Magic Castle and more.

But there were some rounds where baking a cake was as easy as riding a bike. "I know what I know, the difference is what I know I don't think about. I've done it so many years. When I pick up a rolling pin it's connected to my arm, it's a part of me. It's effortless. I don't think about it, I just do it," says Buddy.

In the end, Buddy had nothing but respect for the Charm City Cakes owner. "I knew who Duff was, but I didn't know him personally. After the competition, I have a lot more respect and admiration for him as a baker, as a person and as a pastry chef — and I think it's vice versa."

Buddy also thinks this competition is unlike many others that are out there now. The head-to-head part where he gets to verse another popular cake celebrity was just the icing on top of an already delicious show idea.

At the end of the day, the Carlos Bakeshop owner is just happy he got to show off his passion and art again. "That's why I became a baker. It's an art. You put your heart and soul into it and give it everything you've got and you step back and look at what you created. It gives you that feeling of self-worth, the feeling of this is why I do what I do. I got that through all six episodes, but the finale was the biggest, it was over the top"

Who will be crowned the champion? Tune in to Food Network on March 10.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY: Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell, to satisfy lien of the owner, by public internet sale via www.StorageTreasures.com for competitive bidding to begin on February 28, 2019 at 4:00PM and conclude March 14, 2019 at 4:00PM via the Compass Self Storage located at 1831 W Allegheny Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19132

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2086 Carla Randolph, 2098 Natasha Benton, 3093 Desiree Tindle
4001 Anthony Bell, 4072 Michelle Peterson, 4073 Herbert Moon
4105 Leslie Murray, 5009B Sarah Reed, 5098 Betty Hart
5108 Rodney Balmer, 5176 Siani Jubliee, 5253 William Parker

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

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Unit# 1036 Ione Watson
Unit# 1040 Belinda Willis III
Unit# 1053 Jabari Vaugh
Unit# 1065 Cynthia Cullpepper
Unit# 1104 Gregory Bradsher
Unit# 2049 Timothy Guy
Unit# 2069 Daekwon Brantley
Unit# 2172 Ramona Mallory
Unit# 3006 Dominic Franklin
Unit# 3047 Alphonso Smith Jr
Unit# 4043 Constance Brown
Unit# 4050 Matthew Guida
Unit# 4052 Dalian Fileds
Unit# 4056 Asia West
Unit# 6008 William Clover
Unit# 6014 Norma Oliphant
Unit# 6067 Curtis Royal
Unit# 7004 Tyrone Harvey
Unit# 7071 Elmaldi Smythe
Unit# 7107 Brandon James
Unit# 8159 Tamika Bennett
Unit# E12 Michael Johnston Jr.
Unit# F16 Ashton Jones

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Unit # 1124 Anthony Petaccio • Unit # 1337 Ebony Smith
Unit # 2118 Nicoletta C Nieves • Unit # 2142 Marie White • Unit # 2316 Louis Lattera
Unit # 2455 Nikera Moody • Unit # 2484 Alyssa Bunodono

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Emeril Lagasse. ALL PHOTOS PAMELA PASCO

Emeril Lagasse will set sail with Carnival Cruise Line in 2020

The beloved New Orleans chef will "kick it up a notch" on the high seas with his brand-new restaurant Emeril's Bistro.

PAT KING
patrick.king@metro.us

Yesterday afternoon, Carnival Cruise Line announced its brand-new cruise ship, the Mardi Gras, that will set sail in 2020. Paying homage to its very first boat, the TSS Mardi Gras, that set out on the high seas in 1972, the cruise will be a culmination of everything that guests have come to know and love from Carnival — and just a little bit more.

Over a private lunch in a tucked-away corner of New York City's Bell Book & Candle, the people at Carnival unveiled that Mardi Gras will be welcoming aboard none other than Emeril Lagasse to helm a brand-new a la carte restaurant onboard the ship for passengers looking for authentic New Orleans cooking. Because when you think of food from the Big Easy, who else comes to mind other than Mr. "BAM!" himself?

The restaurant, Emeril's Bistro, will sit directly in the middle of the ship's "French Quarter" zone and serve breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Along with an open seafood bar, main menu items will include oyster and cochon de lait po-boys, muffaletta sandwiches, Emeril's signature barbecue shrimp, fresh seafood ceviche, roasted duck & Andouille sausage gumbo, jambalaya and complements such as Creole potato salad with diced scallions and red beans and "jazz-man" rice. For breakfast, passengers will be able to indulge in the early hours with a shrimp and grits and a shrimp Creole omelet. To top off your meal, Big Easy classic Bananas Foster and lemon icebox pie will be waiting for you if you haven't already stuffed yourself with barbecue shrimp.

"It's been an incredible experience already working with the folks at Carnival," Lagasse says. "Not only the leaders but the culinary team and the chefs have been fabulous."

As far as challenges that may arise serving fresh seafood in the middle of a cruise, Lagasse believes where there is a will, there is a way.

"When I opened in Las Vegas 25 years ago, they thought I was absolutely insane to open a fish restaurant in the middle of the desert," laughs Lagasse. "Maybe it's not been done. Why not? Let's explore that. … I don't think these days there are any limitations. If you want Berkshire pork, there's no reason why we can't have Berkshire pork on the ship. That's what we're talking about with the seafood and oyster bar. We're not going to buy a bunch of frozen stuff. These guys, the culinary team at Carnival, think outside the box. If you want to have a hamachi crudo, we'll figure that out!"

This kind of spirit and drive is what initially made America fall in love with Emeril in the first place, and is what puts great faith into the people at Carnival to deliver some of his classic and world-renowned dishes.

Carnival Cruise Line and Emeril Lagasse Announcement Luncheon.

"People like to try different things," says Carnival Cruise Line President Christine Duffy. "We wanted this to be more about introducing people to the whole vibe that is New Orleans Cajun cooking that he does so well."

The Mardi Gras cruise will depart from Port Canaveral, Florida, and will have a variety of different destinations based upon the package you choose. The ship will also be the first cruise with a full roller coaster on board as well as many other forms of entertainment that will be announced in the upcoming months.

For more information and to book your trip, head over to carnival.com.

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MATT BURKE

Matt Burke is a veteran sports journalist and the Founder and Editor in Chief of MetroBet.

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One of the biggest reasons for the popularity of the NCAA men's basketball tournament each year is the unpredictability of each game played. The Madness reached its zenith last March when a No. 1 seed (Virginia) was finally upset by a No. 16 seed (UMBC), and now more than ever it seems like any team can win it all.

That's on the surface. Diving into the numbers, though, there has been an endless stream of Nos. 1, 2 and 3 seeds that eventually wind up winning the whole shebang in early April. In the last 20 years, there have been 14 No. 1 seeds that won it all. Only two No. 2 seeds and three No. 3 seeds have captured the crown since 1998, and just one non-top three seed has won the title in the past two decades (UConn in 2014 as a seven seed).

Take this info into account when looking at March Madness futures bets right now. You'll be wasting your money by picking a middle-range team like a Kansas or a Maryland or a Virginia Tech to raise that clunky NCAA trophy. And save those long-shot teams for your bracket.

Picking double-digit seed teams to win a round or two is fine. Anything past that is psychotic.

Philly native and ESPN bracketologist Joe Lunardi currently has the following teams as Nos. 1 and 2 seeds: Virginia, Michigan State, Kentucky, North Carolina, Gonzaga, Michigan, Duke and Tennessee.

So look around for good value on some of these teams.

Right now at FanDuel Sportsbook (which is currently operating online in New Jersey), Duke is the overwhelming favorite to win it all at +230. The team with the next-highest odds is Gonzaga at +750.

Make no mistake, you can do better than Duke at +230. Look at a team like Kentucky at +1400 or Michigan at +1600.

For the record, Villanova is a long shot at +7000.

Here are the top current FanDuel title odds.

Duke +230
Gonzaga +750
Virginia +950
Tennessee +1300
Kentucky +1400
North Carolina +1400
Michigan +1600
Michigan State +1600
Purdue +1900
Texas Tech +2100
Houston +2400

TWEET OF THE DAY

Cousin Sal
@TheCousinSal

Betting the NBA has become impossible. Case in point, the defending champion Warriors can't even win a home game vs. the Celtics - a team that's been tanking since late 2018.

Sports betting 101: What are totals?

VSiN

When you're looking at the betting odds for totals, this is a reflection of the combined score of both teams. That means that you are looking at whether the combined score of both sides will go over or under a set number. (For that reason, this type of bet is also often called an over/under bet.) For example, the sportsbook might set the total at 66 for an Eagles game against a high-scoring opponent. This means that they predict that the two teams will score a combined total of 66 points. You will then place a wager on whether the actual combined score will be over or under that amount. If you think that one or both teams have a particularly strong offense and it will be a high-scoring affair, you would bet over. If you think it will be a defensive struggle, ending in very low scores on both or either side, then you would bet under. If the final score is something like 44-40, then the combined score would be 84, meaning the game is an over. If the final score is something like 33-32, making the combined score 65, then it is an over.

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Sometimes, the combined scores will land right on the total. In our example, if the score ended up being something like 34-32, then the combined score would be 66, exactly the predicted total. This situation is called a push or a tie. In these cases, no one wins the bet, and you would simply get your money back. To avoid these situations, sportsbooks will often set the total at a half number, like 66.5. This way, if the final combined score was 66, it would be an under, and a 67 would be an over.

Betting trends

Preview: Temple @ UConn

THURSDAY, 7 P.M.

21-8	Overall record	14-15
13-14-2	ATS record	17-12-0
16-13	O/U record	12-17
7-5	Away/home	13-4
6-4	L10	3-7
6-1 ATS in L7 after ATS loss	Betting trend	Under is 8-0 in L8
EVEN	Line	EVEN

O/U: Over/under. L10 = Last 10 games. ATS = Against the spread.

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MAAC Championship Tournament preview

A spot in the Big Dance is up for grabs.

One of the most geographically condensed college basketball conferences in the nation has also been one of the tightest on the floor this season.

Many of you follow the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference, which contains six teams from the state of New York (Iona, Canisius, Siena, Niagara, Manhattan, Marist), three from New Jersey (Rider, Monmouth, St. Peter's) and two from Connecticut (Quinnipiac, Fairfield).

The league begins its postseason tournament Thursday in Albany.

Only the winner will advance to the NCAA tournament later this month. No MAAC member even ranks in the top 190 nationally, according to the NCAA's "NET" ratings system and respected stat site kenpom.com.

Longtime bettors know that the Metro Atlantic has scored some high-profile shockers in the Big Dance, though. Siena (+6.5) stunned No. 4 seed Vanderbilt 83-62 in 2008, then outed No. 8 seed Ohio State 74-72 in 2009 at +2.5 before giving No. 1 seed Louisville a 79-72 scare as a 12-point underdog. Unfortunately it's been 11 straight losses for the MAAC since Siena beat the Buckeyes.

Though there aren't any great teams this season, the conference tournament could be a wild free-for-all because there's so little distance from top to bottom. Here's a quick look at conference margin averages from the regular season.

GETTY IMAGES

Metro Atlantic Conference margins: Iona +5.2, Quinnipiac +4.3, Rider +3.4, Siena +2.3, Monmouth -0.2, Canisius -0.4, Marist -1.2, Fairfield -1.7, Manhattan -3.1, St. Peter's -3.8, Niagara -4.9

Only 10.1 points from best average to worst, compared to the 16.8 points we saw Tuesday in the Horizon League (Northern Kentucky at the top with 9.0, Cleveland State in the cellar at -7.8). The ACC could see a spread of as much as 28 points next week. Virginia's average result moved to +14.3 with a Monday night blowout of Syracuse as six-point favorites, while awful Wake Forest may finish that far below the zero line.

Those MAAC margins suggest many competitors would be within a bucket of each other in terms of team quality on a neutral court. If you're going to bet, be ready to sweat!

Here's a quick look at the brackets, with the margin averages in parentheses.

Thursday's first round
No .8 seed Marist (-1.2) vs. No. 9 St. Peter's (-3.8), No. 7 Manhattan (-3.1) vs. No. 10 Fairfield (-1.7), No. 6 Monmouth (-0.2) vs. No. 11 Niagara (-4.9)

Friday's quarterfinal matchups
No. 1 Iona (+5.2) vs. Marist/St. Peter's winner, No. 2 Canisius (-0.4) vs. Manhattan/Fairfield winner

Saturday's quarterfinal matchups
No. 3 Quinnipiac (+4.3) vs. Monmouth/Niagara winner, No. 4 Rider (+3.4) vs. No .5 Siena (+2.3)

Sunday's semifinals
The winner of Iona's quarter faces the winner of Rider/Siena, while Quinnipiac's math looks favorable in the lower half of the bracket.

Monday night's championship game will be nationally televised (9 p.m., ESPN2).

During the regular season, betting markets underrated Quinnipiac (17-11-1 ATS), while overrating Rider (9-20-1, Iona 11-18, Fairfield 11-17-2, and St. Peter's 12-17-1).

Sports on TV Highlights

7:00 pm	**Men's CBB** Temple Owls vs. UConn Huskies	CBS SPORTS
7:00 pm	**Men's CBB** Iowa Hawkeyes vs. Wisconsin Badgers	ESPN
7:00 pm	**NHL Hockey** Columbus Blue Jackets vs. Pittsburgh Penguins	NBC Sports Network
8:00 pm	**NBA Basketball** Indiana Pacers vs. Milwaukee Bucks	TNT
10:00 pm	**Men's CBB** USC Trojans vs. Utah Utes	FOX Sports 1
10:30 pm	**NBA Basketball** Oklahoma City Thunder vs. Portland Trail Blazers	TNT

Temple vs. UConn betting preview

The Temple Owls (21-8) will play the penultimate game of their regular-season schedule at the Gampel Pavilion against the UConn Huskies (14-15) on Thursday night. It's possible that Temple will get caught looking ahead to Saturday's meeting with 25th-ranked Central Florida and beyond to the AAC Tournament, but UConn is tough to endorse as they've won just one of their last seven games and were bludgeoned by the Owls (81-63) when these programs met back on Feb. 6. We'll head to the totals market for a play in this tilt.

The Under has cashed in eight straight games involving the Huskies, and 10 of their last 11 at home. Their offense has really struggled in that eight-game span, scoring just 64.4 points per game. UConn's seasonal average is 74.4. Not coincidentally, senior guard Jalen Adams (17 points per game) has missed his team's last six contests due to an MCL sprain. The program's second-leading scorer, Christian Vital (13.6 points per game), is just four for his last 17 from the floor, and has made only one of his last 11 attempts from beyond the arc.

Temple has gone below the total in four of their last five road games. Their offense is a bit inconsistent; Shizz Alston Jr. is typically good for 20 or more points, but Quinton Rose's shot isn't always reliable. Since he just went for 28 points against hapless Tulane, it seems that he's due for another down effort.

The play: Temple, Under

ROBERT CRISCOLA

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Notice is hereby given that Extra Space Storage will sell, to satisfy lien of the owner, at public sale by competitive bidding on March 20, 2019 at 10:30 AM at the facility located at: **Extra Space Storage 4433 Wayne Ave, Philadelphia PA 19144. 267-453-3400.** The personal goods stored therein by the following may include, but not limited to general household furniture, boxes, clothes and appliances.

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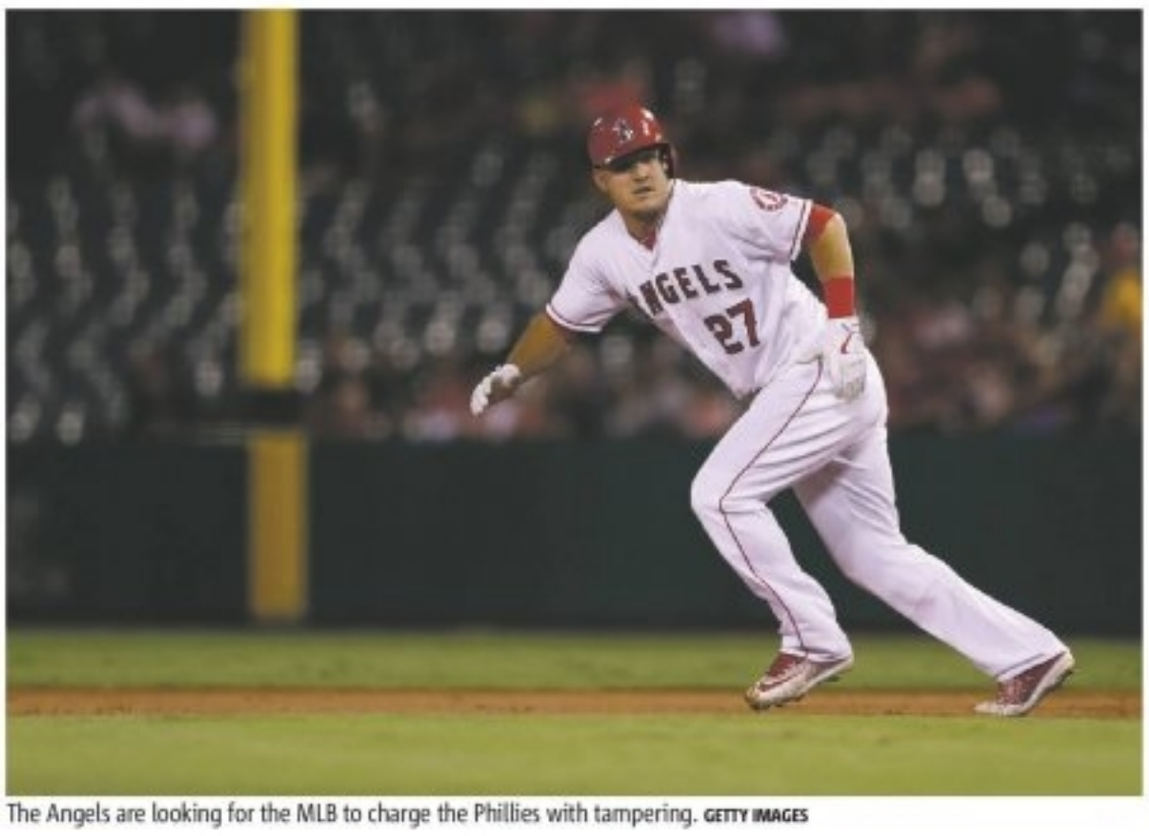
Harper, Phillies tampering in Mike Trout pursuit?

The Angels are not happy with Bryce Harper's comments pertaining to their star center fielder.

JOE PANTORNO
joseph.pantorno@metro.us



The Angels are looking for the MLB to charge the Phillies with tampering. GETTY IMAGES

The Los Angeles Angels won't just let the links between their all-star center fielder, Mike Trout, and the Philadelphia Phillies go unpunished.

At least, that's what they're trying to do.

ESPN's Jeff Passan reported on Wednesday that the Angels had reached out to Major League Baseball about whether the Phillies and their new signing, Bryce Harper, are tampering in an attempt to help coax Trout into joining Philadelphia in two years. (A decision had not been reached by press time.)

The 26-year-old Harper has not even been an official Phillie for a week after the organization announced last Friday that they had signed the six-time all-star to a record-breaking 13-year, $330 million contract. Yet the recruitment has already begun.

Harper made headlines on Tuesday when he addressed the possibility of teaming up with Trout down the line.

"If you don't think I'm gonna call Mike Trout to come to Philly in 2020, you're crazy," Harper said.

A possible punishment could range from anywhere between a fine by the league or nothing more than a reprimand.

The two also spoke extensively throughout the offseason, according to Harper, who had asked Trout what it was like to play in Philadelphia. Trout grew up in Millville, N.J., where he idolized the Philadelphia sports franchises.

There will be plenty of conspiracy theorists, though, who will think that Harper was looking for some kind of confirmation Trout would join him on the Phillies once his contract with the Angels runs out.

Trout is on track to become an unrestricted free agent after the 2020 season, when he will be the most coveted player on the open market in league history. The 27-year-old has put together a blistering start to his MLB career, winning a pair of MVP awards and six Silver Sluggers to go with seven All-Star selections. In eight professional seasons, he's slashed .307/.416/.573 with 240 home runs and 1,187 hits.

That kind of résumé is going to come at a hefty price far greater than Harper's $330 million. It isn't out of the realm of possibility that Trout becomes Major League Baseball's first $400 million man.

It probably won't stop the Phillies from offering the chance at a homecoming for Trout. Owner John Middleton has made it known that he is not afraid to spend exorbitant amounts of money to put the best possible product on the field.

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Le'Veon Bell is the biggest free-agent name available this offseason. GETTY IMAGES

Eagles still in mix for Le'Veon Bell

The Birds continue to be linked with the star free-agent running back.

JOE PANTORNO
joseph.pantorno@metro.us

The Eagles aren't quite out of the Le'Veon Bell sweepstakes just yet.

General manager Howie Roseman has helped clear up around $20 million in cap space for Philadelphia this offseason in moves that featured the restructuring of Lane Johnson's contract along with the decision not to pick up Timmy Jernigan's option.

With some cash to spend, the idea of getting in on free-agent running back Le'Veon Bell once again re-entered the fray as a possibility for the Eagles.

"There have been rumblings in the background that Philadelphia could have some interest, there's lurking," ESPN's Adam Schefter told 97.5 The Fanatic. "I don't know how real it is or isn't. The one thing I know about the Eagles is, they're always investigating everybody."

Bell is the biggest name available on the open market this offseason after an unceremonious split with the Pittsburgh Steelers that centered around failed contract negotiations. The 27-year-old is looking for a contract that pays him in the neighborhood of $17 million per season while the Steelers were offering him no more than $14.5 million per year.

As one of the best dual-threat backs in the NFL, he is expected to earn that lucrative kind of payday while immediately bringing star power and a major threat to any team's backfield. That kind of talent is exactly what the Eagles need considering they have next to nothing when it comes to the ground game.

Jay Ajayi will be a free agent next week with a low stock after tearing his ACL in October. It leaves the Eagles with the underwhelming group of Wendell Smallwood, Corey Clement and Darren Sproles. None of those three backs have shown an ability to be a true No. 1 option for the Eagles.

A dangerous running back is imperative to take the pressure off Carson Wentz, who will return as the franchise quarterback after the Eagles made the understandable yet unpopular decision of letting Nick Foles go to market.

A running back like Bell ensures that Wentz would have no shortage of options within the Eagles offense as Doug Pederson looks to lead his team to a third straight postseason appearance in 2019. That's a streak attained just four times dating back to 1950.

Since 2014, Bell has put up 16-game averages of 1,462 rushing yards, 738 receiving yards and 11 total touchdowns.

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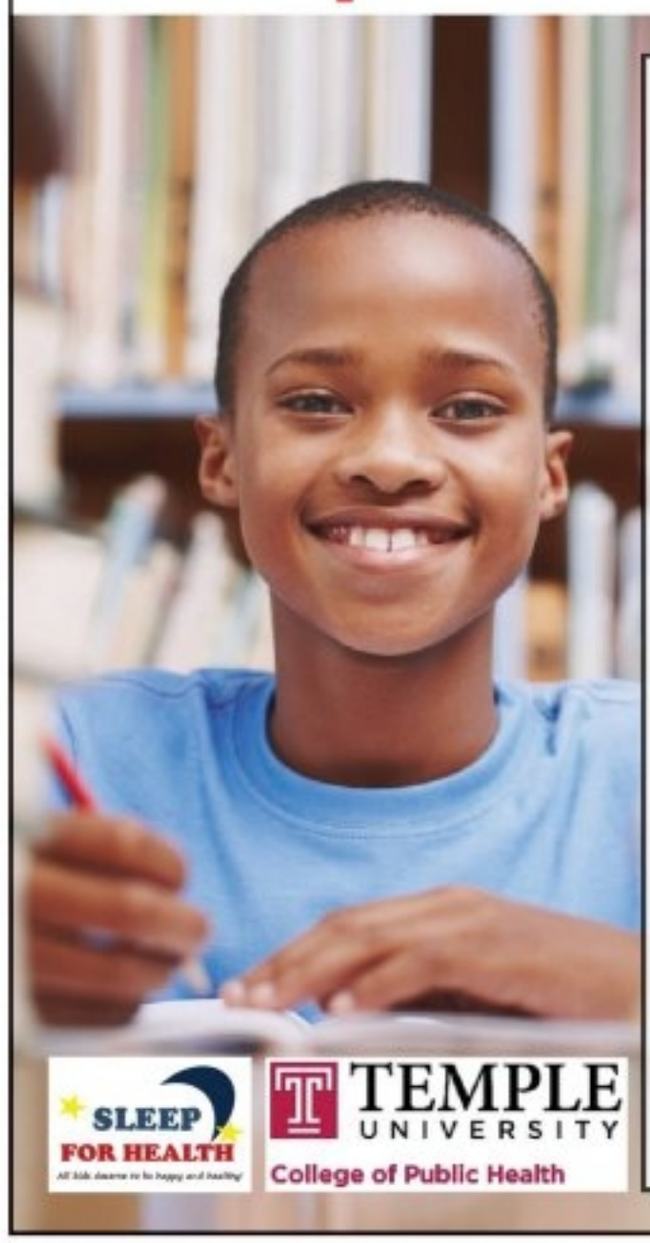

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Pursuant to the Land Recycling and Environmental Remediation Standards Act, the act of May 19, 1995, P.L. 4, No. 1995-2., notice is hereby given that Provco Penrose LLC has submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection a Notice of Intent to Remediate and associated Remedial Investigation Report/Cleanup Plan for the site located at 2600 Penrose Avenue in Philadelphia, Philadelphia County. This Notice of Intent to Remediate states that the site was formerly operated as a scrap metal and recycling yard. Site soils were found to be contaminated with volatile organic compounds, polyaromatic hydrocarbons, priority pollutant metals, and polychlorinated biphenyls. Site groundwater was found to be contaminated with volatile organic compounds, semi-volatile organic compounds, and priority pollutant metals. Provco Penrose LLC has indicated that the proposed remedial measures will be engineering controls to interrupt the direct contact pathway with polychlorinated biphenyl impacted soils and groundwater attainment sampling to demonstrate site specific standards in soil and groundwater. The proposed future use of the property will be non-residential with a convenience store with gasoline service and a fast food restaurant.

Provco Penrose LLC plans to use the site-specific standard at the site. The Act provides for a 30-day public comment period for site-specific standard remediation. The 30-day comment period is initiated with the publication of this notice. Until April 8, 2019, Philadelphia officials may submit a request to Provco Penrose LLC to be involved in the development of the remediation and reuse plans for the site. Philadelphia officials may also submit a request to Provco Penrose LLC during this 30-day comment period to develop and implement a public involvement plan. Copies of these requests and of any comments should also be submitted to the Department of Environmental Protection at Environmental Cleanup and Brownfields, 2 East Main Street, Norristown, Pennsylvania 19401 attention Ms. Charline Bass.

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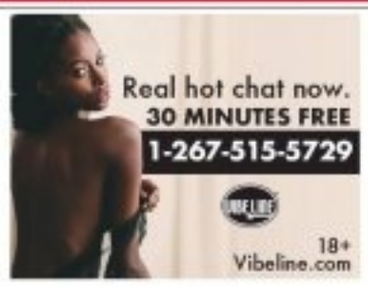

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GAMES

metro.us/crossword

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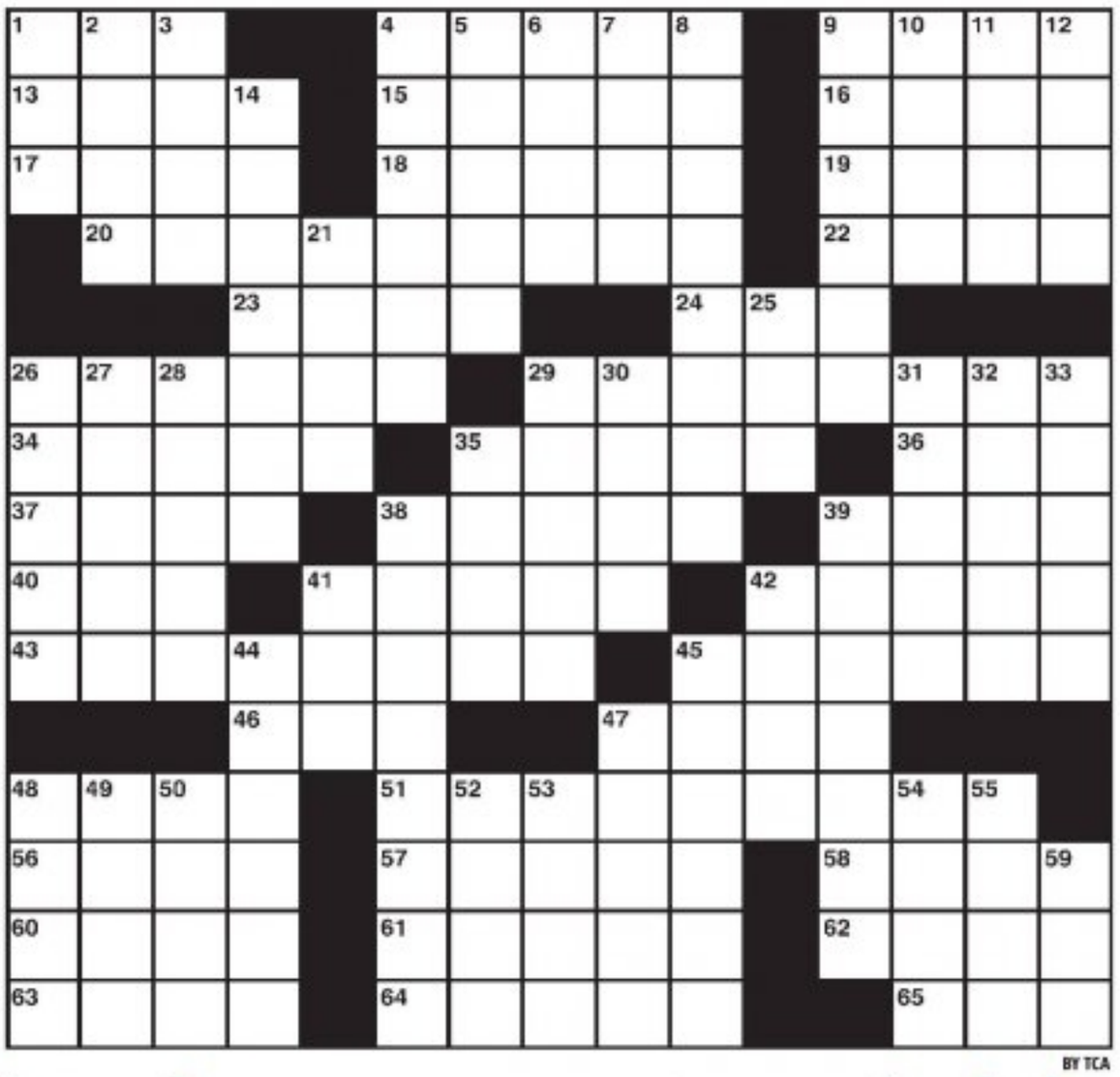

BY TCA

ACROSS

1 One of the WWII Allied nations
4 "The __"; TV series for Mr. T
9 Border on
13 __ off; falls asleep
15 Rolls-__; luxury car
16 Advice to Nanette
17 Greek liqueur
18 Some golf tournaments
19 Smile
20 Convinces
22 Jealousy
23 Mercedes-__; luxury car
24 Not well
26 Insult
29 Cordial
34 Bench boards
35 Long lock of hair
36 Whopper
37 Popular pets
38 Swoon
39 Costa __
40 Doctors' org.
41 Had a bug
42 Cyclist
43 Backslides
45 Indiana team
46 __ Moines
47 Flow out forcefully
48 Wineglass part
51 Advantage
56 Long skirt
57 Measuring stick
58 Put to flight
60 Leave out
61 Jagged
62 Rounded roof
63 __ it; understands
64 Made clothing
65 Org. for Knicks & Nuggets

DOWN

1 __, dos, tres...
2 Chowder or broth
3 Shaping tool
4 Hang __; linger
5 November birthstone
6 Watched
7 Undesirable spots
8 Most cluttered
9 California team
10 "__ to be Wild"; Steppenwolf hit
11 Brown or Rice: abbr.
12 Acting award
14 Cool desserts
21 Cruz & Rubio: abbr.
25 Spanish article
26 "Sesame Street" grouch
27 Old __; former lover
28 Deadly
29 Asks nosy questions
30 Give, but expect back
31 Identical
32 Friendlier
33 In __; weeping
35 Story
38 Narrow openings; clefts
39 Burton or Thomas
41 Primate
42 Bad-mouth
44 Fesses up
45 Sounded like a contented cat
47 Waterbirds
48 Air pollution
49 Easy to handle
50 Way out
52 Untainted
53 Farm machine
54 AM/PM divider
55 Dim-witted
59 Soothing drink

metro.us/wordsearch

P	N	I	B	K	Y	X	S	N	P
S	P	O	O	N	Z	K	F	H	E
L	W	Y	M	I	L	K	C	L	B
L	A	T	O	A	S	T	P	U	B
S	I	E	B	W	N	P	Y	H	L
M	K	C	R	S	A	N	T	X	E
R	P	C	H	E	E	R	I	O	S
A	O	P	A	W	C	R	U	C	H
H	N	Z	G	J	T	R	R	N	E
C	R	U	N	C	H	S	F	P	R

Apple
Bowl
Cereal
Charms
Cheerios
Cinnamon
Crunch
Fruity
Jacks
Lucky
Milk
Pebbles
Spoon
Toast
Trix

metro.us/wander

Category: Animal

		E	S	
	O	D	O	N
	L	O	B	E
	P	T	T	L
	H	I	N	

Trace a path, using every letter once, to find the hidden phrase. Your path can turn in any direction, but not diagonally.

metro.us/sudoku

9	1	5		4	7			
2				8	5		4	
8	4						7	
		8		9				2
7	3	9				4	1	6
1				6		8		
	8						2	4
	9		4	2				7
			5	7		1	8	3

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	R	A	M		G	L	E	A	M		E	C	H	O
P	A	P	A		R	E	V	U	E		S	H	I	N
E	S	P	N		O	V	E	R	A	C	T	I	V	E
W	H	O		O	P	E	R	A		L	A	C	E	S
		R	U	P	E	E			P	E	T			
H	A	T	R	E	D			S	A	F	E	S	T	
A	L	I	G	N		S	P	E	C	S		H	A	S
F	L	O	E		P	L	E	A	T		T	U	N	E
T	I	N		C	R	E	A	M		H	E	D	G	E
	E	S	C	H	E	W			R	A	N	D	O	M
			R	I	P			H	A	S	T	E		
S	T	R	U	M		T	H	I	G	H		R	P	M
P	R	O	S	P	E	R	I	N	G		L	I	A	R
O	U	S	T		D	I	R	G	E		I	N	N	S
T	E	E	S		S	P	E	E	D		E	G	G	

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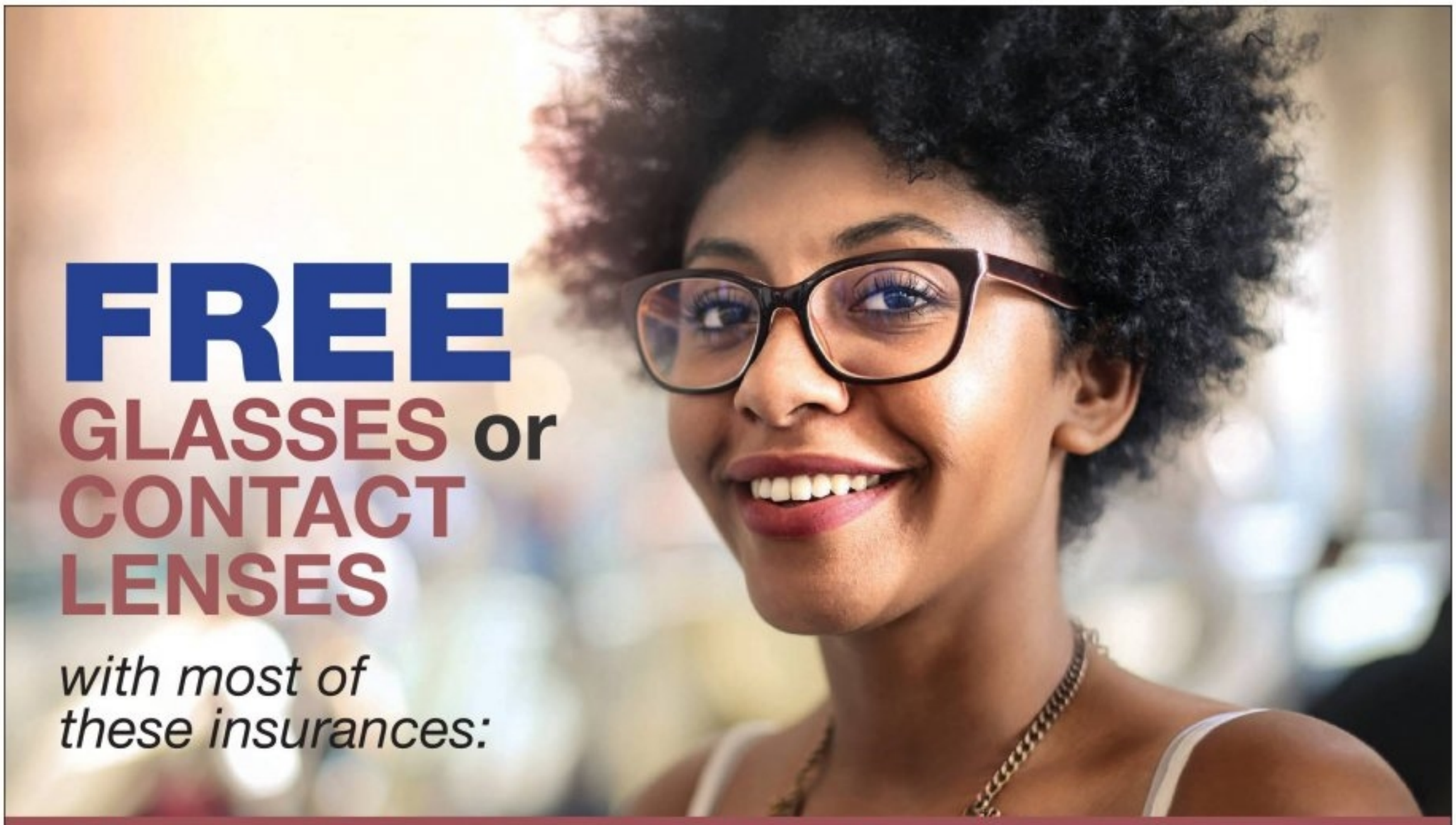

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